happened. This problems was also brought forward in 1991-92 and the then Chief Minister, Shri Kalyan Singh and the Urban Development Minister, Shri Lalji Tandon had represented that his Plan was incomplete and it should be made complete but it was not done so. It was also said at that time to protect the Taj and to clean the Yamuna from pollution, a barrage should be constructed across the Yamuna, Besides that water arrangement should be such as to maintain greenery but the greenery of Agra and the Taj has been disappearing. Now the position has become so precarious that the water of the Yamuna river has become so polluted in Delhi and Uttar Pradesh that it is not fit for drinking for human beings and it is harmful to the health of man and animals.

Scientists have said that the water is not suitable for irrigation purposes. The produce also gets polluted and is also harmful for health ....*(Interruptions)* Therefore, the pace of the implementation of Yamuna Action Plan may be reviewed. The implementation of the Project may be speeded up and the use and adequacy of the implementation of the Project should be assessed and if inadequacy is there, it should be reviewed and changed after holding disscussion with Haryana and Uttar Pradesh State Government and also with Japanese Financial Organisation and those short comings should be removed and it should be ensured that the pollution of Yamuna river may be removed ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please put off the mike, as soon as the other member is asked to speak.

[English]

SHRI C. NARASIMHAN (Krishnagiri) : I would like to bring to the notice of the Central Government the callousness shown by the Government of Tamil Nadu in respect of such a small matter like construction of a bus stand in my constituency at Krishnagiri in my constituency. Krishnagiri is the only municipal town in Tamil Nadu which does not have a bus stand.

Krishnagir is a big municipal town as also an industrial and trading centre. The floating population of Krishnagiri is about one lakh and about five lakh people are living in that rural area. It is a place which is connected to two national highways and persons going to important places like Madras, Tirupathi, Vellore, Coimbatore, etc. have to pass through my constituency.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You have to raise a matter regarding construction of a pucca bus stand in Krishnagiri.

SHRI C. NARASIMHAN : This has been a demand pending before the Government for about twenty years. But the State Government is turning a deaf ear to it. We want the Central Government to intervene in that area and to see that justice is done to that area.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJABHAU THAKRE (Yavatmal) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, there are 87 mines under W.C.F. in the country. Out of them 50 mines are in Maharastra. 25 mines out of them are underground with whereas 25 mines are open cast mines. Out of these 25 opencast mines 8 mines are located in my constituency. There is difficulty because of the 40-50 feet dumping in these opencast mines. The officers of W.C.L. dump that overburden along the bank of Vardha river. Dams are constructed on the banks of the river to check the inflow of water in mines during floods in rainy seasons. But at the time of flood the villages located on the other side of the bank get flooded. These villages have been facing this problem for the last two-three years. When the Minister of Coal visited those places. She had given assurances, but nothing was done so far. The crops in these areas get destroyed in rainy season each year and diseases spread. No officer, of W.C.L. is paying attention in this regard. I request you that this is an important issue. You should give direction to the Government for its solution and the difficulty of these farmers should be removed.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Discussion on supplementary Budget is to be held shortly. Discussion on Railways is also be held today. There was discussion on flood for two days continuously but, Mr. Pappu Yadav, you were not present.

SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH (Motihari) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Minister to the situation of North Bihar. There is an area between Motihari and Sitamadhi and there is Shivhari district between them. There is shortage of means of transportation in those area due to Gandak river and Bhagmati river. I would request that a new rail line may be constructed between Motihari, Sitamadhi and Rakadi-Dayal via Shivaha. Mr. Chairman, Sir, there is broadgauge rail line between Raxsol, Motihari. For the last two years the trains have been modernised. Motihari Railway Station, where Mahatma Gandhi came for the first time after returning from South Africa and which is a historical Railway station, should be modernised in the Golden Jubillee year of Independence.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer) : There are two N.T.C. Mills Mahalaxmi and Advard in Bayawar. Due to closure of these mills thousands of workers have become unemployed. Another mill is Aditya Mill at Kishanagarh. It was also closed down one year ago and due to that thousands of workers have been facing starvation. The workers of N.T.C. Mills were cured to take voluntary retirement by promising to give assistance for making them self dependent.

But even after taking voluntary retirement they were not given any assistance so far. Then it was said that workers would be employed after merging both the mills through Renewal Fund. But both the mills were not merged, instead of that they were closed down and thousands of workers were rendered unemployed.

Government are requested to restart those N.T.C. Mills and the unemployed mill workers be provided employment. They want to do work and become self-dependent. They want to run the mill on co-operative basis. Please direct the Government to restart N.T.C. Mill of Bayawar and Aditya Mill of Kishangarh.

SHRI SURESH R. JADHAV (Parbhani) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, thank you for giving me a chance to speak. Modern Food Industry is the biggest Industry in the country and Asia. There are many branches of this Mill in India. Lacs of workers are employed therein. The Ministry of Finance and the Disinvestment Commission have decided to disinvest its shares. I request you that its shares may not be disinvested because it is the question of the livelihood of lacs of workers.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Mullappally Ramachandran and Shri Ajay Kumar, both of you have given notice on the same issue. It relates to raising the allocation of foodgrains, Already, this matter was raised on the 4th August 1997. So, this cannot be allowed now as per the rules. Now, I call Shri Kodikunnil Suresh.

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN (Cannanor): Who raised it? Nobody has raised it.

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH (Adoor) : Mr. Chairman Sir, I would like to draw the attention of this hon. House to the silence of the Ministry of Civil Aviation on the alarming situation.....*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: This matter was already raised on the 4th August, 1997.

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Who raised it? Nobody from Kerala has raised this issue.

MR. CHAIRMAN : That is not written here in the list but it has already been raised.

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : But it is a major issue concerning allocation of foodgrains to the State of Kerala.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Anyway, let Shri Suresh raise his matter now; after that, I may allow you. Please take your seat.

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH (Adoor) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. House to the silence of the Ministry of Civil Aviation on the alarming situation of the Gulf passengers who have been stranded in Kerala due to non-availability of sufficient flights for their Journey to the Gulf countries.

As of today, there are more than 5,000 passengers waiting to get flight tickets to the Gulf countries from Thiruvananthapuram and Kozhikode Airports. The Ministry is reluctant to provide additional flights and not even permitting the private airlines which are ready to operate during this peak season. It is pertinent to note that Air India and Indian Airlines are providing additional flights from other sectors but have excluded the Trivandrum and Calicut sector.

I, therefore, urge upon the hon. Minister to intervene in this matter and provide additional flights from the Thiruvananthapuram and Kozhikode sector to the Gulf countries during peak seasons.

Thank you.

SHRI S. AJAY KUMAR (Ottapulam) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to request, through you, the hon. Minister of Food and Civil Supplies to enhance the allocation of foodgrains from 17.76 lakh tonnes to 24 lakh tonnes, which used to be the allocation for the State of Kerala for the last several years.

The present allocation of 17.76 lakh tonnes of foodgrains is in the form of 14.76 lakh tonnes rice and three lakh tonnes wheat. Since the State of Kerala requires more rice, I demand that seven lakh tonnes of additional rice should be made available to the State at Central Issue Price.

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Sir, I want to support what Shri Ajay Kumar has said just now. This is a major issue because there is shortage of foodgrains in the State of Kerala. There is considerable reduction of supply of foodgrains under the Targeted Public Distribution System this year. We all know that the State of Kerala is reeling under flood and this devastating flood has affected the State to a great extent. Onam is fast approaching. During the last two years, twenty thousand tonnes of additional foodgrains were allotted to the State. My request is that this should be enhanced to fifty thousand tonnes this year as the Onam season is fast approaching.

SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN (Quilon) : Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister of Finance regarding a issue which is affecting lakhs of workers in the State of Kerala. The State of Kerala is the pioneer in enacting labour welfare legislations. There are twelve labour welfare legislation in the State. They are not being run for deriving any profits, but they are functioning for the welfare of the workers. It is functioning on the contribution of the workers.

Recently, a huge amount of income-tax has been assessed on the Worker' Welfare Fund Board and the recovery and attachment proceeding are going on. So, I would like to request the hon. Minister of Finance to exempt this Board from paying taxes. Sir, the former hon. Minister of Finance, in one of his Budget speeches, said that this Board will be exempt from paying taxes. I would like to urge upon the Ministry of Finance to exempt this Board from